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mum adult size, must apparently be determined from old specimens. Probably because the larger individuals are found more readily than the smaller ones, no large specimens of large forms are now taken on the islands inhabited by the mongoose. The following notes are presented as a contribution to our knowledge of the approximate maximum size attained by two Jamaican species.

There is in the Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, a specimen of *Celestus occiduus* (Shaw) from Jamaica which is one of the largest that has been recorded, and probably approximates the maximum size reached by that species. The measurements are as follows:

Total length .....	475	mm.
Length of head and body.....	305	mm.
Length of tail .....	170	mm.
Length of hind leg to tip of longest toe	90	mm.
(Tip reproduced about 5 mm.)		
Length of front leg to tip of longest toe	68	mm.
Length of head .....	69	mm.
Width of head .....	55.5	mm.

The measurements are exceeded by those of a specimen recorded by Boulenger (*Catalogue of Lizards in the British Museum*, II, p. 290-291), the total length of which is 560 mm. (tail reproduced).

In the same collection there are three specimens of *Ameiva dorsalis* Gray which measure 115 mm., 115 mm., and 117 mm. from snout to vent. The appearance of these indicates that this is probably about the maximum size attained by the species.

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## SOME NOTES ON NOTOPHTHALMUS VIRIDESCENS.

During the present season, as in preceding ones, several trips have been made by different members

of the Department of Zoology, of Smith College, to the "Williams Pond," on the Northwest slope of Mt. Toby, in the town of Sunderland, Mass. This pond, formed by the damming of a small brook, is about a quarter of an acre in surface, and from one to four feet in depth, and contains an abundant growth of *Rhizoclonium* (sp?). The dam is an unusually good vantage ground for observing and collecting *Notophthalmus viridescens*, which are always present in considerable numbers.

The first and second trips this Fall were made by Dr. and Mrs. H. H. Wilder, on August 31 and September 21, respectively. On both trips large numbers of adults were present, and such quantities of individuals of 1919's hatch, that four or five specimens were caught by each sweep of the net. They were usually imprisoned in the *Rhizoclonium* and easily seen by holding the matted mass of the alga up to the light. On August 31, these specimens were all typically larval, whereas on September 21 the majority of those examined were metamorphic. At this time a few stones near the shore were turned over for completely metamorphosed individuals; but no conclusions can be drawn from the fact that none were found, as the search was not sufficiently prolonged. Of the fifteen specimens of this collection living in the Laboratory on October 1, all but one were nearly or quite metamorphosed, and one of these when sectioned was found to have eaten his molt.

The next week, September 28, a rather more extended trip was made by a larger representation of the Department. At that time, although adults were as plentiful as ever, continued netting and careful examination of the alga resulted in obtaining only two larvae and three metamorphic individuals. On the shore and in a hollow a few rods back from the water under chips and stones were found ten recently metamorphosed terrestrial larvæ. Their small size and protective coloration explains the fact that no

more than this were found. In the above-mentioned hollow and along the edges of the brook which feeds the pond, twenty-five one and two year old terrestrial larvae were collected. None of these were bright red, and the larger ones were quite dark green, but the skins of all were characteristically rough.

The results obtained this season correspond very closely with those of other years, but for which I have less accurate data. In 1917 and 1918 young specimens were collected in considerable numbers from the water early in September, and these were metamorphosing in the Laboratory at the opening of College about the twentieth of the month. In 1917 (September 23?) a large number of terrestrial larvae of varying sizes were collected. Twenty of these, all of a bright scarlet color, were under one log. Those found nearer the water, both large and small ones, were much darker in color. The specimens from that collection were kept in a combination terrarium and aquarium in the laboratory until June. The large ones very soon became very green in color and a few acquired the smooth skin of the adult. Most of them retained the rough skin, however, but went into the water at times, and all seemed equally at home in the water, on the moss under a wet stick, or balanced on the end of a fern frond. What they would have done in their natural habitat, I do not know.

These observations seem to show that the duration of metamorphosis is comparatively short and that most of the animals emerge from the water in this region within a few days about the middle of September; that the skin color of the terrestrial stage is variable, and that after becoming green, the animals do not remain wholly in the water.

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